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Staff Coordination on Portland Harbor Projects with USACE Permits August 7, 2015

Overarching goals:

1. Interagency information sharing on project-specific permit process and technical aspects;
2. readying applicants to submit complete applications for timely processing;
3. on-going interagency and applicant conferring as projects move forward or change;
4. development of sideboards, impact type batches, and standard conditions or performance measures to apply for consistency and workload balance; and
5. smoothing the path for in-water remediation requirements/conditions that are consistent with past/current permits.

We began at 1:30pm with a presentation on 2 actions proposed for cleanup purposes at the Kinder Morgan Willbridge terminal, to be implemented during the in-water work window in 2016. Attendees were: Michael LaDouceur, Genevieve Angle, Alex Liverman, Mike Romero (DEQ), Rob Truedinger (KM), and Keith Sheets, Nathan Williams & Jay Lorenz (CH2MHill).

The first action was placing a pre-cast concrete U-box culvert into approx 800 feet of the existing “flume” section of Salzman Creek, so address current and future leaks that allow contaminated groundwater to enter the lower portion of the flume and be transported to the river. Salzman Creek flow out of Forest Park, into a culvert under Hwy 30 and the RR, to a daylighted section of approx 200 ft, to another culvert section, to the flume, to another culvert section under GS Roofing and finally through an outfall 20-30 feet above the final 300 ft section of open creek bed to the river. The flume was built in 1938 to replace the wooden culvert the creek flowed through then. The culverts upstream of the flume restrict flow. Michael confirmed the channelized stream was jurisdictional and that the DEQ Order for cleanup allowed a NWP 38. Consultation (likely informal) with NMFS would be necessary unless documentation that fish did not have historical access to the stream was provided. The applicant will investigate and aim to provide info within 30 days. They will also meet next week with the City on development permit exemption and whether capital costs trigger Greenway permitting. Michael indicated that SHPO coordination is needed because the structure is more than 50 years old, and recommended filling out the form prior to application. Submittal of complete application materials by Dec 2015 should allow for permit issuance by July 2016.

Action 2 was removal of DDT contaminated material from a 25x35 ft area under the dock at OHW. DDT is found at low levels along the beach for at least 80 feet north and south of the removal area, but concentrations are highest under the dock. Isolated removal in the dry will be down to approx 1 ft and backfilled with clean material. The applicant will consider placing sand and/or cobbles, rather than adding riprap, since stabilization may not be needed of the beach or of the remedy (if clean samples following removal). Photos and rationale should be provided in the application. While there are existing active permits at the site for dredging and dock repair, the group recommended not pursuing modifications, which could be time consuming. Instead, this would also fit under a NWP 38 and both actions could be submitted as a single application. CERCLA concurrence will be needed from EPA on both actions. DEQ will prep Sean Sheldrake on the details. The applicant’s preference is to make sure the flume action goes forward in 2016 due to funding and approval internally, so the actions can be split, if needed to keep the flume moving forward.

Presenters and the DEQ PM left at 2:30pm and Alex, Michael and Genevieve discussed the status of other projects on the tracking list:

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- GS Roofing – hand augering sampling has minimal effects and can go forward following NWP 6 conditions. Alex will email Michael and cc applicant so Michael can confirm.
- Gunderson – submitted revisions to USACE and DSL 8/4 on info requested by NMFS – Michael and Genevieve will review, but time frames might not work for completion before close of IWWW Oct 31. DEQ order requires action this year and we discussed stopping contaminated erosion, planting credit for Areas 1 & 2 and limited time of rock placement before final bank remedy (to include an alternative to lay back bank 5:1 for fish – concepts to be presented Sep 22) to be considered as balancing factors in lieu of HEA review to keep the project moving. Alex will relay info to applicant.

Michael is still working on intern posting help tools package to USACE website and will report on progress at next meeting.

We adjourned 3:15 pm.